

JERRY MORRIS

- 1. Background and Experience.** I have been a Bethany Beach property owner since 1984. After I retired in 2010, my wife Judi and I made Bethany our permanent home. Interested in issues and the daily operations of the Town, I attended most Town Council and committee meetings and volunteered to help. Over the past nine years, I have served on a number of committees, including: Budget and Finance (currently as Chairman); Non-Residential Design Review; Charter and Ordinance Review; July 4th Parade; and the Planning and Zoning Commission. For the past four years, I have been a member and currently Secretary-Treasurer of the Town Council. In addition, I serve on the Board of the Farmers Market and previously as a member of the BBLA Board of Directors. I believe that the experience in these positions has given me a practical understanding of issues and the operation of our Town government, and provided the qualifications and experience needed to continue to serve as your representative on the Town Council.
- 2. Policy Direction.** There often are benefits in reviewing policies and past decisions for possible change and improvement. The Town Council and committees have a rigorous process for such review in situations under consideration, and, with public input, changes have been made over the years when warranted by new circumstances. Some examples are: changes in zoning, building design standards and parking-related ordinances. While I would not change any current policies at this time, I would like the Council to continue to focus on improved internet technology and maintaining our strong financial condition.
- 3. Issues.**

 - A. Addressing storm and tidal flooding.** The continued maintenance of the dune and beach is necessary to protect Town infrastructure and private property and the East side of Route 1 from storm damage. The Loop Canal is a flooding threat in both rain and tidal events. The Town has worked with the Army Corps of Engineers at considerable expense in engineering studies over the years to find a solution, so far without success. If a viable solution is identified and approved, I will support vigorous efforts to obtain the necessary funding. The Town also acquired wetlands (the 26 acres of the Nature Center) to help reduce flooding. For now, keeping the swales clear of debris, replacing damaged drainage pipes and requiring the use of pervious paving in future construction (like that used in the S. Atlantic Ave. repaving project) are initiatives I support.
 - B. Working with other coastal towns.** Last year we initiated the reactivation of the Association of Coastal Towns (ACT) to address and work together on issues common to our seven beach communities (Lewes to Fenwick Island), including beach replenishment, resiliency and flooding. ACT provides a forum for communication and coordination with DNREC, DelDot, Sussex County Council, the Center for Inland Bays and our U.S. Senators. Our combined efforts ensure we are represented in county, state and Federal planning. We also work actively with the Sussex County Association of Towns and the Delaware League of Local Governments to ensure that the interests of Bethany Beach and our citizens are represented.
 - C. Traffic Safety.** The current Council has sought to improve pedestrian, bike and vehicle safety with a number of measures, including: the recently completed S. Atlantic and Cedarwood projects; adding speed bumps, additional stop signs and speed indicators on a number of heavily traveled streets; working with South Bethany to accelerate and expand on a DelDot lighting project on Route 1. We continue to study possible additional improvements throughout the Town.

(Thanks to BBLA for providing this voter service!)